

CLAIMS

What I claim is:

1. An elongated flexible tubular member for use in forming a floodwater barrier system, the tubular member having a cavity open at its opposite ends, the tubular member having at least one fill opening and at least one sealable drain opening, the improvement to which comprises:

(a) a first rigid end cap attachable to one of the open ends of the tubular member in a manner to seal the one open end, and

(b) a second rigid end cap attachable to the other end of the tubular member in a manner to seal the other end, each of the first and second rigid end caps comprising:

(i) an end plate having a perimeter section formed at least in part by a flange section provided with a series of bolt openings, the end plate having a center section having a shoulder member extending outward from the center section, the shoulder being shaped and sized to fit within the cavity of the tubular member, and

(ii) a retaining member having a center opening that is shaped and sized to fit about the shoulder to securely retain the tubular member to the flanged end plate when the one of the ends of the tubular member is positioned between the shoulder and the retaining member.

2. A floodwater barrier system according to claim 1 wherein the flanged section forms the perimeter of the end cap.

3. A module for use in the construction of a floodwater barrier system comprising:
- (a) a flexible tubular member open at opposing ends and forming a cavity and having at least one fill opening for the insertion of a fluid or small particle material;
 - 5 (b) two rigid end caps for sealing each of the opposing ends, each end cap having a perimeter section forming a flange for use in attaching an adjacent module, and having a center section forming a shoulder sized and shaped to fit within the cavity; and
 - 10 (c) two retaining rings, each retaining ring shaped and sized to fit about one of the shoulders to retain one of the opposing ends positioned between corresponding shoulder and retaining ring.
4. A module according to claim 1 wherein the flexible tubular member further having a sealable drain opening for removing the fluid or small particle material.
5. A module according to claim 1 wherein the tubular member is constructed at least in
15 part from nylon, rubber, cotton, or fabric blend having nylon, rubber, cotton forming at least a portion of the fabric blend.
6. A module according to claim 1 wherein the flange having a series of bolt openings.
7. A module according to claim 1 wherein the tubular member forms an elongated, substantially straight shape when filled with the fluid or small particle material.
- 20 8. A module according to claim 1 wherein the tubular member having at least a segment forming a curved shape when filled with the fluid or small particle material.
9. A module according to claim 8 wherein the curved shape is V-shaped or U-shaped.

10. A floodwater barrier system comprising two or more modules, each module comprising:

- (a) an elongated, flexible tubular member forming a cavity open at opposite ends,
- (b) a first rigid end cap attachable to one of the open ends of the tubular member in a manner to seal the one open end, and
- (c) a second rigid end cap attachable to the other end of the tubular member in a manner to seal the other end, each of the first and second rigid end caps comprising:

- (i) an end plate having a perimeter section formed at least in part by a flange section provided with a series of bolt openings alignable with corresponding bolt openings in an adjacent end plate of an adjacent tubular member, and having a center section having a shoulder member extending outward from the center section, the shoulder being shaped and sized to fit within the cavity of the tubular member, and
- (ii) a retaining member having a center opening that is shaped and sized to fit about the shoulder to securely retain the tubular member to the flanged end plate when the one of the ends of the tubular member is positioned between the shoulder and the retaining member.

11. A floodwater barrier system according to claim 10 further comprising a corner module comprising a corner tubular member forming a cavity with open ends, the corner tubular member formed at least in part by two flexible end sections flanking a center

arcuate-shaped center section, a first rigid end cap attachable to one of the open ends of the corner tubular member in a manner to seal the one open end, and a second rigid end cap attachable to the other end of the corner tubular member in a manner to seal the other end, each of the first and second rigid end caps comprising:

- 5 (a) a corner end plate having a perimeter section formed at least in part by a flange section provided with a series of bolt openings alignable with corresponding bolt openings in an adjacent end plate of an adjacent tubular member, and having a center section having a shoulder member extending outward from the center section, the shoulder being shaped and sized to fit
- 10 within the cavity of the corner tubular member, and
- (b) a retaining member having a center opening that is shaped and sized to fit about the shoulder to securely retain the corner tubular member to the flanged end plate when the one of the ends of the corner tubular member is positioned between the shoulder and the retaining member.